

## SCRANTON TRIBUNE

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#### General Manager.

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## THE SCRANTON TRIBUNE.

SCRANTON, APRIL 28, 1894.

It is because the American people love a fighter that so many of them are anxious to see Fighting Jack Robinson whip his transgressors and win the nomination at one and the same time.

Tom Reed at Pittsburg.

The reception accorded last evening to ex-Speaker Reed by the members and guests of the American club of Pittsburg was an incident well worthy of more than passing attention. The personality, not less than the utterances, of the hero of this notable occasion were repays. The attributes of political leadership and the means whereby he daily gains popularity and wins esteem are worthy of thoughtful consideration by citizens of a government in which great problems of national destiny as well as minor subjects of individual concern, are so largely affected by men of Mr. Reed's stamp.

To begin with, it may be affirmed of the American people that they admire a fighter. Tom Reed is above all else a fighter. He fights fair and is a manly foe as well as a manly friend; but from the minute he is enlisted in a contest until the contest closes he fights incessantly, furiously and with all his strength. He neither asks nor gives quarter. Like the pugilist in the ring, he recognizes no friend in the antagonist confronting him, and lets fly the blows of his ample brain with the sole purpose of winning the victory, or being frankly whipped. That fairly won or lost, he reveals at once a wholly new phase of character; and becomes by quick transition the most genial, companionable and popular of men. His hardest hitting enemies are personally his warmest friends; and men who would sit up nights to plan schemes of injury to him politically would walk miles to do him a favor in any social or business relation of life.

An individual of whom this can be said must necessarily have nothing small in his mental composition. Little men do not make or hold such bitter professional enemies and such warm and lasting personal friendships. The give and take of political life involves every politician in large fluctuations and constant uncertainty. Mr. Reed, fresh from the most complete parliamentary triumph of this century, is today high and clear in the favor of the American masses. He has the brains to grace any position in their gift and the manhood to do credit to any relation they may wish him to assume. It is yet too early to predict what his future shall be and too soon to speak with confidence as to the next turn in the capricious political tide, the fact is steadily gaining recognition that Thomas R. Reed is a man born to fill a large place in the history of his generation, and to acquire a following in the politics of the republic of which we today see, as it were, only the advance guard.

THE REVEREND activity of the George Francis Train industry is another thing to be chalked on the debit side of the re-ascendant Democrat.

AN IMPRESSION undoubtedly obtains among many persons that the Arctic circle is likely some day to disclose a new continent, as influential with reference to the destinies of future centuries as the discovery of America has been to our own. It is this blind faith, opposing tenaciously all the facts of observation and science, that creates such a sentimental interest in North Pole exploration. Disinfecting bones and skulls and tales of insatiable suffering merely fan this curiosity until the veriest adventurer is nowadays quite sure, if he care to take the risk, of returning from Greenland either a frozen corpse or a perverted hero and lion. It is all very silly, of course, but it is the unalterable fact.

THE BEST epitaph of the season is that which defines Coxeyism as a condition without a theory.

### Meat Ax Economists.

What shall be done with the American Indian? An element in congress, following out the somewhat brutal teaching of pioneer mentors who contended that the only good Indian is a dead Indian, now propose, after having spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in the establishment and development of government Indian schools, to cancel this investment because depleted government revenues point to the necessity of economy. They do not deign to argue the question of moral duty to the nation's copper-lured wards. Viewing nothing but the lack of ready money in the treasury, they cry for a blue pencil and would without scruple strike off blindly the schedules relating to Indian education.

It occurs to us that this is not a wholly creditable method of reform. While it is doubtless necessary under the circumstances to restrict all present appropriations to the narrowest margin consistent with prudent government, the proposition to rip, hew and hack in this summary manner is not the proposition of wisdom nor the part of careful statesmanship. Under the superintendency of Dr. W. N. Hallman, formerly of La Porte, Ind., these institutions of learning kept open for the benefit of the Indian boys and girls have made remarkable progress. We challenge any person who has ever visited the training school at Carlisle to deny that the process of education can be applied successfully to this branch of the human family. When in every walk of professional and commercial life reclaimed Indians hold their own on terms of equality with the most favored whites, it is too late in the discussion to enter the plea of failure.

There is an additional reason why this effort to sacrifice the present sys-

tem of federal education for Indians needs to be resisted. The effort comes not from intelligent and patient statesmen, but from that element in our politics which is conspicuous chiefly for its ignorance and obstinacy. The leading factors in American culture are today in full sympathy with the endeavor to make amends to the surviving Indian children for the great historical injustice done to their ancestors. If standards of culture and conscience are to be subordinated in this one instance to mere mathematical considerations of temporary economy, and that an ignorant economy which hacks at figures blindly, there is no telling where the barbarian invasion may spread. The congress which has to a large degree made itself responsible for such humiliating mania as Coxeyism is not a congress to be permitted to exercise full discretion in its Populist notions of reform.

IN THE opinion of most, if not all, respectable men, the only man meaner than a demagogue is a convicted criminal; and there are doubts about even this relative rating.

THE CHOLERA scare of 1894 begins uncommonly early; but it will not excite much alarm. The cleansing processes of the last two years have left this dread scourge little territory suited for it to prey upon. Isolated spots may exhibit traces of the infection; but so far, at least, as the United States is concerned, it is possible now to consign this conventional scare to the happy past tense.

INNUENDO as a political weapon dulls its edge against common sense every time it fears to come out into the open.

### Get Into the Clearing.

The esteemed Philadelphia Press aptly says that "when there are more candidates than there are places to be filled somebody will necessarily be disappointed. Every man who enters the field for a nomination must take his chances. An open discussion of the various candidates can do no harm; on the other hand, it is desirable; and if there is any candidate whose nomination would be a discredit and a danger to the party that should be made plain before it is too late." Meeting this frank outburst with similar frankness, THE TRIBUNE desires on behalf of the Republican masses to know what one candidate it refers to when, in the same editorial from which we have quoted, it says "The chief scandal of the present canvass has been the notorious use of money by a single candidate."

Does the Press mean General Hastings? It is known that he has "used money," although not corruptly. He has paid postage on letters, had his picture taken and even, as we have been informed, maintained a literary bureau of which the Press' political editor has had charge. All these things take money, and no doubt General Hastings has paid the bills without thought of getting "notorious" thereby. But maybe the Press means Walter Lyon. He, too, is circulating literature. His friends are very properly making his merits known and to do this these days costs cash. The state of Pennsylvania is much too big to enable every body to know all about every other body. If the Press does not mean Walter Lyon, who else does it mean? We should like to have it speak out frankly, put its information at the public's disposal, and thus save trouble. "A danger to the party," indeed, "be made plain before it is too late."

The anonymous attack is a method of fighting unworthy of a great paper which, not without injustice, assumes to be the representative newspaper of the Republicans of this commonwealth.

UPON the supposition that Walter Wellman, the newest Arctic pole hunter, is well paid for his risks it is possible to excuse the seeming folly of his expedition. The question whether he shall earn his livelihood in reputable newspaper work or put it on the hazard of a madman's dash for ice locked northern seas is one for his personal determination. He alone takes the risks; he alone need pay the piper. Most men would prefer to attend to legitimate duties in a climate with which they are familiar, taking their chances for bread and fame in the ordinary and beaten path. Still, Mr. Wellman has a freeman's liberty to choose, if he please, a more unusual course; and having chosen it, to pursue it as far as he may desire. The only point we wish to bring out in this relation is that, having assumed this latter risk deliberately, for gain, he no longer becomes a proper subject for printed panegyrics and should take his level with any other wage earner lacking the good judgment that wage earners commonly exhibit. The effort to inflate him into a bold and dashing hero should not be permitted to inflict upon the American people a second edition of Stanley with his tedious tropics metamorphosed into glaciers and icebergs.

FROM ALL accounts the Republican congressional fight in the mother county will from this time onward be all that the greatest lovers of Political excitement could desire. Mr. Leisenring without having said much, has done such a large quantity of talk work in the lower end that Hon. Morgan B. Williams has concluded it is time to give a sign. Accordingly, his placard announcements are distributed in all public places. This will naturally have the effect of stimulating the friends of Mr. Miner, who in turn will incite renewed activity in the other camps. If as a result of all this eagerness a dark horse like Senator Kline should slip through, it would be a joke that many would regard as having been not wholly unexpected.

THE NICARAGUA canal jobbers are re-trying the tepid cry that England will grab this invaluable waterway if the United States does not at once endorse the stock jobbers' bonds. The notion is absurd, but it serves its immediate purpose. Jingo patriots, under subterfuge from the chief of promoters, are making the walk-in ring.

TO WHAT extent, if at all, the Philadelphia Press presents General Hastings in its anonymous fusillade at the candidacy of Jack Robinson, we are, of course, unable to say; but of one thing we are sure. The hero of Johnstown is

not the man to favor knifeing another man in the back. The manner in which the Press would embarrass its friend in the not improbable event of Representative Robinson's nomination on the same ticket with General Hastings ought to be obvious even to the author of the Press' covert attacks.

THE REPUTATION which Senator Allen began when he spoke for sixteen consecutive hours in advocacy of free silver coinage has been abundantly sustained in the recent activity of his lower jaw. He is fast becoming the premier demagogue of his day.

ONE OF the closest students of the woman suffrage problem once said he was in favor of woman having that privilege but would be sorry to see her use it. And doesn't that pretty well cover the common sense of the subject as the case now stands?

SENATOR BRICE will discover before he gets through with trying to conciliate the Populists that the game is not worth the candle. The only sure cure for such political disorders as this is to let them die of their own voracious voracity.

ACCORDING to most Democratic organs these Coxey uprisings are the fruits of Republican legislation but none of these able editors explains why the rabble was so tardy in getting started.

## WHAT ONE Woman Hears.

It has always been a wonder to me how it is that men in general are so crazy to get on the police force. A superficial view of the position would not lead one to believe it held so many charms. To be sure, a police officer always looks handsomer than any other man on earth and everybody scurries out of the way to let him pass and the small boys look up to him with special awe and admiration. These details are a long way from the heart of the matter, however. But there are a number of objections to the position which more than balance the trivial advantages mentioned above. It must be a horrible to parade around the lonely streets after everything but fangs and the stray felines are in bed and asleep and to feel that the responsibility of the town's welfare rests upon you—although of course nobody ever holds a policeman responsible for anything. If he sees a fire and gives the alarm, or if he spies an alleged burglar and catches him, well and good; the officer is lauded to the skies. If he doesn't see the fire and it burns up the city, or if the burglar gets away undetected, also well and good; he must have been on the other end of the best.

But there are so many unpleasant things in this police business. He may get shot at if he tries to arrest anybody. He may be treated with marked disrespect and profanity by some of the women who are thrust upon his attention, and he has to stay out on the cold streets in winter without daring to go inside where warm fires and beverages invite and where in the heat of summer they have nice ice water and other things which seem good to his sight. I don't think the lot of a policeman is a happy one, but it seems that the real, valid reason that induces so many men with the ambitions to be on the force is the fact that in summer they can see less hell for nothing. Imagine the feelings of Chief Simpson and his men when they learned this week that the Scranton Base Ball association at first thought it would not permit the free entrance of policemen at the games. Perhaps you've noticed the sudden change of heart that struck the association the other night when it decided that the officers might be passed in after all. A policeman who comes up to our office to tell us how it was. The force was going to clip in and have some of its number as the game, and every time the blasphemers—whatever they are—made too much noise, the officers of the association were to be arrested, and whenever the Scranton team made an error they were going to fine Alex Dunn. I don't wonder the poor man resigned, but you see the policemen are not to be scorned hereafter; and the newspapers are also to be treated better. Base ball without the aid of the press would be of no account. I was invited to write a series of letters upon the game as it is played in Scranton, but I really fear that Wednesday won't be my afternoon out.

Do you know it seems to me that it would be just as well if the Republicans did less bragging and more to-morrowing? There are times when self-insurance carries one through, but this would be too bad if a boast too much or a kiss too little should wreck a freight load of fond hopes.

I hear that the high school commencement will be held in the Fraternity hall this year, and will it not be a pretty sight? The stage is so large and the decorations can be made so lovely that, with the youth and beauty of the graduates and high school pupils, it will be a bright picture, indeed. There the weather bureau will gradually send a cool evening. Commencement programmes are universally built with the design of giving every lad and lassie a show, and graduation nights are always hot beyond endurance.

We had some Presbyterian delegates at our house during the last three days. They were what one might term "advanced" in their ideas, being usually intelligent and highly cultured; but they never once mentioned woman's suffrage in their entire stay. They talked about the progress of our sex in so many directions; of the wonderful work women are doing at home and abroad, and of the possibilities that lie before us in the new century; but they never howled about the men nor recounted the tales of cruel oppression under which we poor women groan and suffer. It was really pleasant to have them around. We've had delegates in the past who blamed the men so much for all the evils that befall us and our land and nation, that our men folk for very shame, or something, took to getting their meals down town during the visitations, and I grew so disgusted with men after hearing of their iniquitous proceedings, that I was snappy to my employer and was invited to get a new position. But these delegates were very mild and harmless and I can't say that they put any obstreperous notions into my head or that they talked about woman's sphere or of the beauties of being a Froiblist, or of any other disagreeable topic. These are delegates and delegates I believe on the whole I would as willingly have these last visitors, as the preachers of the previous week, although preachers have their places of usefulness too. HELEN WATKINS.

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